

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method ~~in a communication system~~ comprising:
activating a data channel ~~between a first and a second station~~;
starting a ready timer function in layer 3 of a connection function model;
maintaining the data channel in a ready state until the ready timer function indicates an expiry of a predefined period;
initiating transmission of data on the data channel by a Subnetwork Dependent Convergence Protocol (SNDCP) entity ~~of the first station~~;
preventing the data channel to change from the ready state to another state based on the ready timer function, until a predefined event; and
changing the state of the data channel from the ready state to the other state based on an indication by a further timer in a logical link control (LLC) layer of the connection function model that is lower than a layer on which said ready timer function is implemented,
wherein the step of activating comprises transmitting an advanced link segment to the layer of the further timer and transmitting a signal from the layer of the further timer to the SNDCP entity that reception of a segment has started.
2. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one timer of the ready timer function is stopped until an indication of the predefined event.
3. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one timer of the ready timer function is reset upon receipt of said indication.
4. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one timer of the ready timer function is restarted in response to said indication.
5. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ready timer function is ignored until an indication of the predefined event.

6. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ready timer function is reset in response to an indication of the predefined event.

7. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the predefined event comprises an indication that the data transmission has ended.

8. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ready timer function is prevented to have impact on the state of the data channel during the data transmission.

9. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length of said predefined period is set during the activation of the data channel based on a timer value.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein an indication of the expiry of the further timer triggers an operation that would have been triggered by an expiry of the ready timer function ~~is handled by the system as it would be an indication from the timer function.~~

13. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of activating is between ~~first station comprises~~ a mobile station and ~~the second station comprises~~ a base station of a cellular communication system.

14. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a the data channel that is in the ready state prevents communication over another channel ~~between the two stations.~~

15. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the communication system is based on a ~~TErrestrial~~ Terrestrial Trunked Radio (TETRA) standard or specification similar.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~communication system~~ as claimed in claim 29, wherein the ready timer function comprises at least one timer that can be stopped until occurrence of the predefined event.

18. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~communication system~~ as claimed in claim 17, wherein the ready timer function is ignored until the occurrence of the predefined event.

19. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~communication system~~ as claimed in claim 29, wherein the ready timer function comprises at least one timer that can be restarted in response to an indication of the occurrence of the predefined event.

20. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~communication system~~ as claimed in claim 29, wherein a station is configured to reset the ready timer function ~~is adapted to be reset in response to an indication that the predefined event has occurred.~~

21. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~communication system~~ as claimed in claim 29, wherein the predefined event comprises an indication that data transmission is completed.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~communication system~~ as claimed in claim 29, wherein

an entity on said layer 3 is configured to trigger an operation upon receipt of a message of an indication of the expiry of the further timer, the operation being an operation that would have been triggered by an expiry of the ready timer function ~~the control function is adapted to handle an indication of the expiry of the further timer as it would be an indication from the timer function.~~

~~an indication of the expiry of the further timer as it would be an indication from the timer function.~~

26. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~communication system~~ as claimed in claim 29, wherein the apparatus ~~the first station~~ comprises at least a mobile station ~~or and the second station~~ comprises a base station of a cellular communication system.

27. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~communication system~~ as claimed in claim 26, wherein the apparatus ~~communication system~~ is based on a ~~TErrestrial~~ Terrestrial Trunked Radio (TETRA) standard or specification ~~similar~~.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~communication system~~ comprising:
~~a first station and a second station, wherein a data channel can be established for data communication between the stations;~~

a ready timer ~~function~~ in layer 3 of a connection function model for provision of an indication based on which a state of a data channel ~~established between the two stations~~ is changed from a ready state to another state;

a control function responsive to said ready timer ~~function~~ and ~~for controlling~~ configured to control the state of the data channel, arranged such that the data channel is prevented to change from the ready state to said other state based on the ready timer ~~function~~; until a predefined event has occurred; and

a further timer implemented in a lower function layer of a connection function model than on which said ready timer ~~function~~ is implemented, the lower level function layer configured to receive advanced link segments, and configured to signal a message to a Subnetwork Dependent Convergence Protocol (SNDCP) entity that reception of a segment has started.

30. (Currently amended) An appartatus ~~station for a communication system, said station~~ comprising:

~~communication means for establishing a data channel for data communication between the station and another station;~~

a ready timer in layer 3 of a connection function model for provision of an indication based on which a state of a data channel established between the apparatus station and ~~said other station~~ another apparatus is to be changed from a ready state to another state, arranged such that the data channel is prevented to change from the ready state to said other state based on the ready timer, ~~function~~ until occurrence of a predefined event; and

a further timer implemented in a lower function layer of a connection function model than on which said ready timer ~~function~~ is implemented, the lower level function layer configured to receive advanced link segments, and configured to signal a message to a Subnetwork Dependent Convergence Protocol (SNDCCP) entity that reception of a segment has started.

31. (Canceled) A station as claimed in claim 30, wherein the further timer is implemented in a logical link control entity.

32. (Currently amended) An ~~appartaus~~ station as claimed in claim 30, wherein the apparatus station is configured to trigger an operation upon receipt of a message of an indication of an expiry of the further timer, the operation being an operation that would have been triggered by an expiry of the ready timer function adapted to handle an indication of an expiry of the further timer.

33. (Currently amended) An ~~apparatus~~ station as claimed in claim 30, wherein the ready timer function comprises at least one timer that can be stopped until occurrence of the predefined event.

34. (Currently amended) An ~~apparatus~~ station as claimed in claim 33, wherein the ready timer function is ignored until the occurrence of the predefined event.